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March 28, 2005.

CUSTOMER NUMBER

24024

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Williams, et al.

williams, et al.

Serial No.: 10/707,697

10//07,69/

January 5, 2004

For:

Filed:

FERRULE WITH RELIEF

TO REDUCE GALLING

Examiner: Nicholson, E

Art Unit: 3679

Attorney Docket No.: 22188/06732

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office action dated November 29, 2004, Applicants hereby respond as follows. The shortened period for response expired February 28, 2005, accordingly Applicants hereby petition for a one month extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 03-0172 in the amount of \$120.00 for payment of the one month extension of time. The extended due date for this response therefore is March 29, 2005. It is believed that there is no additional fee associated with the filing and consideration of this amendment, however, should the Commissioner decide that any fee or fee deficiency is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any and all fees incurred as a result of entering this amendment and response to deposit account number 03-0172.

Please amend the application as follows: